

OUR MISSION

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

OUR VISION

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION

HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023

PRESENT:

Trustees:

F. D'Amico
A. Kennedy- Virtual and In-person
M. Rizzo

External Members:

G. Wedge, Chair
G. Feldman, Vice-Chair
R. De Belchior
L. Mason - Virtual
L. Mastrogiuseppe – Virtual
T. Munro
D. Nightingale
I. Novak - Virtual

Staff:

A. Della Mora
C. Fernandes
M. Meehan
F. Cifelli
V. Cocco
B. Doan
M. Gendron
P. Klim-Conforti
R. Macchia
D. Reid
P. Stachiw

S. Hinds-Barnett, Acting Recording Secretary

External Guest: Alasdair Robertson (Parliamentarian)

3. Roll Call and Apologies

Apology was extended on behalf of Melanie Battaglia. Mary Pugh was absent.

4. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee D'Amico, that the Agenda, as amended to include the Addendum, be approved.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee D'Amico, that the following items be added to the Agenda:

Inquiries from Trustee Rizzo regarding:

18b) Psychologist Services;

18c) Supports in Classroom; and

Inquiry from Deborah Nightingale regarding:

18d) Status of Motions passed by the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).

On the Vote being taken, the AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

On the Vote being taken, the Motion, as amended, was declared

CARRIED

5. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

6. Approval and Signing of the Minutes

MOVED by Lori Mastrogiuseppe, seconded by Geoffrey Feldman, that the Minutes of the Meeting held November 30, 2022 be approved.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

8. Presentations

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Geoffrey Feldman, that Item 8a) be adopted as follows:

8a) Accountability Framework for Special Services Reimagined - Dr. Brandy Doan (Chief of Educational Research) received.

Trustee Kennedy joined the virtual room at 7:22 p.m.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

9. Notices of Motion

MOVED by Richelle de Belchior, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that Item 9a) be adopted as follows:

- 9a) **From Richelle de Belchior, Community Representative regarding Details of Professional Development Workshops** that this item be considered at the February 8, 2023 SEAC Meeting.

WHEREAS: Professional development workshops were held on November 18th, 2022;

WHEREAS: These workshops were presented by the Board Certified Behaviour Analysts (BCBAs) on areas such as Autism, Be the Reinforcer, Understanding students with autism spectrum disorder;

WHEREAS: There were additional workshops held by School Mental Health Ontario on how to identify children requiring assistance in the younger age classes

WHEREAS: On one of the workshops the BANCK team presented evidence-based strategies focusing on children in the early years;

WHEREAS: The assistive technology team presented accessibility apps such as read and write app and the orbit note; and

WHEREAS: Courses such as Registered Behavior Training were held by the Geneva summit.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to the Board that the Staff provide SEAC with following information before February 8th, 2023:

1. The links to the workshops and modules presented by the BCBAs on Autism, Be the reinforcer and understanding students with autism spectrum disorder;
2. The number of staff members who attended the workshop presented by the BCBAs;
3. The designation of the staff members who did attend the workshop presented by the BCBAs;
4. The grades that these staff members who attended the BCBA presentation regularly teach; and
5. The duration of each of these workshops.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to the Board that the Board Staff provide SEAC with the following information before February 8th, 2023:

1. The link to the School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO) workshop on how to do early identification;
2. The number of staff members who attended the School Mental Health Ontario workshops on how to do early identification;
3. The designation of the staff members who did attend the School Mental Health Ontario workshop;
4. The grades that these staff members who attended the School Mental health Ontario workshop regularly teach; and
5. The duration of the SMHO workshop.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to the Board that the Board staff provide SEAC with the following information before February 8th, 2023:

1. The evidence – based classroom strategies focusing on children in the early years as presented by BANCK;
2. The number of staff members who attended the workshop demonstrating these evidence-based strategies;
3. The designation of staff members who attended the evidence-based strategy workshop focusing on children in the early years;
4. The grades that the members who attended the strategy course regularly teach; and
5. The duration of the strategy course.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to the Board that the Board staff provide SEAC with the following information before February 8th, 2023:

1. An example of the read and write apps and the names of the apps including an example of the orbit note;
2. The number of staff members who attended the workshop presenting these apps and orbit note;

3. The designation of staff members who attended the presentation of these read and write apps including the orbit note;
4. The grades that the members who attended the presentation of these read and write apps including the orbit note normally teach; and
5. The duration of the presentation of the read and write apps including the orbit note.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to the Board that the Board staff provide SEAC with the following information before February 8th, 2023:

1. Examples be shown of what behaviour training was taught at the Geneva summit;
2. The number of staff members who attended the Geneva summit courses involving behaviour training for children with autism;
3. The designation of staff members who attended the Geneva summit training as of February 1st, 2023;
4. The grades that the members who attended the Geneva summit normally teach;
5. The duration of the Geneva summit behaviour training course; and
6. Feedback and criticism of the staff who attended the Geneva summit courses in regard to the behaviour training course.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: SEAC recommend to the Board that the Board staff provide SEAC with the following information before February 8th, 2023:

1. Sufficient budget is allocated for future staff to attend all workshops and Geneva summit courses offered Enforcement of making these workshops mandatory for lower grades (JK and SK) teachers and assistants to attend these workshops and Geneva summit courses so that children can be identified as early as possible for special needs.

13. Consent and Review

The Chair reviewed the Order Page and the following Items were held:

- 11a) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Annual Calendar (Draft) as of January 18, 2023 – Deborah Nightingale;
- 11b) Report from the Informal Working Group to Toronto Catholic District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) (Previously listed as Special Education Plan Review) – Tyler Munro;
- 12a) Special Education Superintendent Update – January 2023 – Deborah Nightingale;
- 12b) 2021-2022 Accessibility Annual Status Report – Trustee Rizzo;
- 18a) Ministry of Education Special Education in Ontario – Provincial Parent Associations Advisory Committee (PAAC) on Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), November 28, 2022 – Deborah Nightingale;

Inquiries from Trustee Rizzo regarding:

- 18b) Psychologist Services;
- 18c) Supports in Classroom; and

Inquiry from Deborah Nightingale regarding:

- 18d) Status of Motions passed by the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).

11. Annual Calendar Items

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Rizzo, that Item 11a) be adopted as follows:

- 11a) Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Annual Calendar (Draft) as of January 18, 2023 received**

Trustee Kennedy disconnected virtually and joined the horseshoe at 7:56 p.m.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Deborah Nightingale, that SEAC recommend to Board that the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) results that specify the Special Education component come to the February 8, 2023 SEAC Meeting.

On the Vote being taken, the AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Rizzo, that SEAC recommend to Board that Staff provide SEAC with the relevant data from the Ontario School Information System (ONSIS) report on Special Education Students at the February 8, 2023 SEAC Meeting.

On the Vote being taken, the AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

On the Vote being taken, the Motion, as amended, was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Tyler Munro, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that Item 11b) be adopted as follows:

- 11b) Report from the Informal Working Group to Toronto Catholic District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) (Previously listed as Special Education Plan Review)** received and referred to Staff.

Trustee Rizzo left the horseshoe at 8:40 p.m. and returned at 8:45 p.m.

Trustee Kennedy left the horseshoe at 8:46 p.m. and returned at 8:50 p.m.

On the Vote being taken, the Referral Motion was declared

CARRIED

12. Reports of Officials for Information by the Board/Other Committees

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that Item 12a) be adopted as follows:

- 12a) Special Education Superintendent Update – January 2023** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Geoffrey Feldman, that Item 12b) be adopted as follows:

- 12b) 2021-2022 Accessibility Annual Status Report** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

18. Inquiries and Miscellaneous

MOVED by Geoffrey Feldman, seconded by Tyler Munro, that Item 18a) be adopted as follows:

- 18a) Ministry of Education Special Education in Ontario – Provincial Parent Associations Advisory Committee (PAAC) on Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), November 28, 2022** received.

MOVED by Deborah Nightingale, seconded by Richelle de Belchior, that this

item be deferred to the February 8, 2023 SEAC Meeting and that SEAC members submit their questions by Monday, January 23, 2023.

On the Vote being taken, the Deferral Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Geoffrey Feldman, that Item 18b) be adopted as follows:

- 18b) From Trustee Rizzo regarding Psychologist services** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Geoffrey Feldman, that Item 18c) be adopted as follows:

- 18c) From Trustee Rizzo regarding Supports in the Classroom** received and referred to Staff.

On the Vote being taken, the Referral Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Tyler Munro, that Item 18d) be adopted as follows:

- 18d) From Deborah Nightingale regarding Status of Motions passed by the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)** received.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

20. Adjournment

MOVED by Geoffrey Feldman, seconded by Trustee Rizzo, that the meeting be adjourned.

On the Vote being taken, the Motion was declared

CARRIED

SECRETARY

CHAIR